

Intradiscal Electrothermal Therapy (IDET) for Back Pain

Administrative Process

Not covered, does not require prior approval.

Definitions

The **intradiscal electrothermal therapy** procedure is being studied for use in the treatment of certain kinds of back pain. A heat probe is inserted into the spine at the point causing pain. The tissue is heated by the probe, which causes it to shrink and scar. This is reported to relieve the pain.

Coverage

Not covered because it is considered experimental / investigational.

Products

Consult your plan documents (Membership Contract, Summary Plan Description [SPD], Evidence of coverage [EOC] or similar plan document) to determine governing contractual provisions, including exclusions and limitations relating to your specific plan. These guidelines apply to most, but not all, plans offered by HealthPartners. We strive to ensure that the contents of this site are correct and complete, but to verify your benefits, please check your contract or SPD, or contact Member Services. In the event of a conflict between your specific plan documents and this general information, the plan documents will govern. These coverage criteria may not apply to Medicare Products if Medicare requires different coverage. For more information regarding Medicare coverage criteria or for a copy of a Medicare coverage policy contact Member Services at 952-883-7979 or 800-233-9645.

Number I021-01; Medical Director Committee Approval 04/11/2000; Annual Review 06/01/06, 8/1/07.

Bibliography of related research that supports this policy is available on request.